Times

NIA, FEBRUARY 27, 1930

CUT ACREAGE; FERTILIZE TO MAKE PROFIT

VARMENT WEEK

The following were awarded prizes as the high point men in the varment killing contest in Pocahontas County the week of February 10 to 15 by the Marlinton Rod and Gun Club at the Kiwanis Club last Friday night.

1. Robert Cromer, of Durbin, 1220 points—6 weasels and 2 red squirrels: Winchester shot gun by Rod and Gun Club.

2. Cliff I. Sharp, of Harter, 1185 points—6 foxes, 1 crow, 1 mink, 2 weasels, 2 hunting house cats, 1 red squirrel. Kamp stove by Peoples' Store.

3. John Kelley, of Huntersville, 930 points—1 fox, 3 weasels, 1 hoot-owl, 13 red squirrels. Fishing rod by Kee's Drug Store.

4. W. L. Hogsett, of Seebert, 700 points—5 foxes, 1 mink, 1 owl. Hunting coat by Men's Shop.

5. Boyd Rexrode, of Durbin, 700 points—3 weasels and 1 mink. Automatic reel and line by Royal Drug Stores.

6. Willie Ruckman, of Millpoint, 475 points—1 fox, 1 weasel 1 owl, 5 hunting house cats. Hunting coat by C. J. Richardson.

7. Asa Wright, of Durbin, 410 points—2 weasels, and 1 red squirrel. Riding pants by H. Kelmenson.

8. Joe Halterman, of Greenbank, 400 points—2 weasels. Box cigars by Sharp & McLaughlin.

9. C. H. Simmons, of Slaty Fork, 300 points, 1 weasel and 1 mink. Two pair of heavy wool socks by Schuchat's Department Store.

Tolbert Carpenter, of Frost, 7 red squirrels, 1 weasel, 1 crow.

R. O. Hamrick, of Linwood, 1 weasel and 1 crow.

Howard Meeks, of Edray, 1 fox, 3 crows.

Joe Sheets, of Buckeye, 1 owl, 11 red squirrels.

Forest Burner, of Durbin, 1 weasel

Alfred Gay, of Edray, 1 fox, 2 hawks.

Floyd Baxter, of Cloverlick, 1 weasel.

Fred Beale, of Mace, 1 fox, 3 red squirrels, 1 hunting house cat.

The total number of varments reported were 134. Among these were 34 weasels, 25 foxes, 6 hawks, 4 owls, 7 minks, 9 hunting house cats and 39 red squirrels.

There were others killed that were not reported. This writer knows of one man who got two wild cats. It is thought that 200 would not be too high an estimate for the number put

MANGANESE

Nothing new to report this week about manganese. There have been no experts from a distance here that we have heard of. Manganese has been reported so often from so many states in the Union, that another field more or less does not cause a ripple of excitement.

It is just as well to wait awhile and see what time brings about. As soon as good touring days come, some of us want to go to the Valley of Virginia and see what the ore looks like there. About the richest ore found in the United States comes from there.

Augusta county was the most important manganese county in the United States according to Professor Watson's book dated in 1907. This was due largely, he says, to the Crimora mine, located two and a half miles from the town of Crimora. It was first worked in 1867. It had a bed of ore about 500 feet wide and 900 feet long. The ore was found like nuggets in a clay of the Cambrian era, which is below any exposure in Pocahontas County The ore is in lumps varying from the size of a pebble to chuncks weighing as much as 500 pounds each. It has been worked by digging through the clay and examinining it for the nodules. At the time the book was printed there was a milling plant that looked like a coal tipple.

The latest feature of the output of Virginia is a government publication of the Bureau of Mines. It states that the entire shipments from Virginia for the year 1927 of manganese ore containing over 37 percent of manganese were 3212 long tons, which came from three counties, Bland. Frederick and Smyth.

Minnesota shipped near a million tons of ore that was above seven per cent manganese. This was manganiferous iron ore. Wisconsin shipped this kind of ore containing between five and six percent 284,470 long tons. These figures for 1927, the latest available.

In 1826, the world's production of manganese was 3,300,000 long tons of which Russia produced 40 per cent, India 31 per cent, Africa (Gold Coast) 11 percent. Russian ore is mostly pyrolusite having an ore that yields 45 to 50 per cent manganese. This compares in richness with the Michaels-Brown Mountain samples.

We have come to the conclusion that manganese ore is like sang, all to the good if you can get enough of

GAME

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Alfred Gay, ... in a fox and ... in the varme... fox had been ... set. The fo... it was though... out but fina... and was cau... caught in tr... a polecat. T... birds were s... their kill. T... that it was t... of an eagle. ... was not lon... were caught...

Ellis De... Creek last S... editor that ... had again ... winter in ... side of the ... sheep kille... the winter. ... a crooked t... ing out on ... sign was n... the big sn... February. ... out on the ... and his fr... into the he... went into ... as there w... A hunt wa... et surroun... sleepy enou... and shoot... would he ... pied by a l... long chas... through T... Southside ... there was ...

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3. John Kelley, of Huntersville, 1000 points—1 fox, 3 weasels, 1 hoot-owl, 13 red squirrels. Fishing rod by Watson's Drug Store.

4. W. L. Hogsett, of Seebert, 700 points—5 foxes, 1 mink, 1 owl. Hunting coat by Men's Shop.

5. Boyd Rexrode, of Durbin, 700 points—3 weasels and 1 mink. Automatic reel and line by Royal Drug Co.

6. Willie Ruckman, of Millpoint, 600 points—1 fox, 1 weasel 1 owl, 5 hunting house cats. Hunting coat by J. Richardson.

7. Elsa Wright, of Durbin, 410 points—2 weasels, and 1 red squirrel. Pair pants by H. Kelmenson.

8. Joe Halterman, of Greenbank, 400 points—2 weasels. Box cigars by Price & McLaughlin.

9. H. Simmons, of Slaty Fork, 400 points, 1 weasel and 1 mink. Pair of heavy wool socks by Hunt's Department Store.

10. Hurt Carpenter, of Frost, 7 red squirrels, 1 weasel. 1 crow.

11. Hamrick, of Linwood, 1 fox and 1 crow.

12. Ord Meeks, of Edray, 1 fox, 3

13. Sheets, of Buckeye, 1 owl, 11 squirrels.

14. Burner, of Durbin, 1 weasel

15. Gay, of Edray, 1 fox, 2

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17. Beale, of Mace, 1 fox, 3 red 1 hunting house cat.

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GAME NOTES

E. Ernest White and Hanson Moore, of Minnehaha Springs, were trailing a gray fox one day last week. Before they got him up they found where he had dug up and eaten a pheasant and a rabbit, and later they found where he had killed and buried up another pheasant and another rabbit. The fox hunts about every night of the year, and his yearly kill of game birds and animals run literally into the hundreds. A half dozen foxes can easily account for more game than is killed by all the hunters.

Alfred Gay, of near Edray, fetched in a fox and two big chicken hawks in the varment killing contest. The fox had been run to hole, and a trap set. The fox stayed in so long that it was thought he never would come out but finally he had to come out and was caught. The hawks were caught in traps set at the carcass of a polecat. The tracks of the big birds were seen in the snow around their kill. The tracks were so large that it was thought they were those of an eagle. Traps were set, and it was not long before two big hawks were caught.

Ellis Dean was in from Anthonys Creek last Saturday, and he told this editor that the big crooked foot bear had again made his appearance this winter in the Alleghanies on this side of the State line. This is an old sheep killer who does not den up in the winter. His left hind foot makes a crooked track. He has been hanging out on the Virginia side, as his sign was not seen on this side until the big snow of the first week of February. Some one had stirred him out on the southside of the mountain and his fresh track was seen coming into the head of Anthonys Creek. He went into a thicket and bedded down as there were no tracks coming out. A hunt was organized, and the thicket surrounded. The bear was not sleepy enough to let anyone creep up and shoot him in his bed. Neither would he go through a stand occupied by a hunter. The result was a long chase, and the bear escaped through Thackers Draft back to the southside of the mountain, where there was no snow.

The hunters figure out that this bear's crooked foot was hurt by being caught in a trap, because he is trap proof. Last summer a farmer found out where the bear was using and began to bait him with honey. Then a trap was set. The bear came

BANKERS R... DRO...

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"The loss ... flected also ...

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concealed with the utmost care, the bear left without touching the bait. He never came back to that place. It is a common saying that if a bear ever gets so much as a toe pinched in a trap, his education is complete and he never can be caught again. The crooked foot bear is an old one and a big one. He has killed thousands of dollars worth of sheep. For years past, he winters during the winter time. During storms he lays up, but during open spells he kills and eats.

Burton Jones, of Seebert, was in town Saturday. As a side line he bought some fur this year. So far he has handled 22 mink skin's 24 gray foxes, 1 red fox, 2 wild cats, 3 bears, and muskrats, skunks and possums by the hundred. Also numerous coons. Mr. Jones called attention to the fact that because the trapping season came in November 1, a greater part of the skunk fur crop was considerable of a waste as the fur of this animal was not prime until almost a month later.

Out of the twenty-five foxes reported in the varment killing contest, I believe all were grays. Out of 25 fox pelts purchased by Burton Jones, of Seebert, this winter, there was only one red. Dick Smith, of Edray, has killed one one red this year, and he got him over at Linwood, around the foot of Cheat Mountain. I hear that John Roberts has gotten a red or two on Cranberry. For a year or two, Dick Smith has been telling the world that the red foxes of this region were wiped out with the running fits.

Major H. B. Cornwell, Chief Game Protector of the State, was here last Friday and Saturday. On Friday night he spoke at the Kiwanis supper On Saturday he inspected the trout ponds of the Marlinton Rod and Gun Club at Edray and at James Sharp's. At Edray a few dozen rainbow trout has escaped when the trout were distributed last July. These had lived off the country since then. They had

ponds of the Marlinton Rod and Gun Club at Edray and at James Sharp's. At Edray a few dozen rainbow trout has escaped when the trout were distributed last July. These had lived off the country since then. They had not grown much, but they were fine and lively. In the big pond at the Sharp Spring, the ones that were left had grown amazingly and are now a fair size to catch. The hatch is now on at the Government fish hatchery at White Sulphur Springs, and in a few weeks the fry will be ready for distribution. Tens of thousands of little trout will be brought to these ponds to be raised to a proper size and then be put out in the streams of Pocahontas county.

J. Haynes Miller, county agent, leaves March 1, to go to Fayette county to take a like position. He was down to Fayetteville last week and secured a residence. Mr. Miller will be succeeded by C. P. Dorsey, who comes here from Fayette county.